

Truly this is so as regards the writer and the part borne in the bloody strife, by the Fifty-ninth Regiment of North Carolina Troops (the Fourth Cavalry) with reference to which he would write.

This regiment was organized at Garysburg, N. C., in the summer of 1862. Colonel Dennis D. Ferebee, of Camden county, whose commission as Colonel bore date 10 August, 1862, was its first commander. He was a gentleman of education and polish, having graduated at our State University in 1839. He read law under Judge Gaston at New Bern, but never entered actively in the practice, preferring the life of a planter. He frequently held civil office and several times represented his county in State legislation. Though not possessing military training, yet he was in many respects a good organizer of men. He was careful and neat in dress and had great respect for law and order. It is related that Governor Swain once said of him, when at college, that he was more regular than the college bell. As an officer he was faithful and brave. After the war he lived many years at his home in the county of Camden, and died greatly respected and admired by his friends and countrymen.

Lieutenant-Colonel Cantwell, of the city of Wilmington, was the second officer in command. He had seen service in the war with Mexico, and seldom has the flag of any army waved over a braver soldier. At Middleburg on 18 June, 1863, at the head of a detachment of his regiment, after fiercely contesting every inch of ground with a force several times larger than his own, he stood up urging his men not to yield, until surrounded and overpowered, his sword was snatched from his hand and he was made a prisoner.

J. M. Mayo, of Edgecombe county, who had been severely wounded and promoted for gallantry in the artillery service, was assigned to the regiment as its Major. He was a young officer of great bravery and dash, and while leading a charge of a squadron of his regiment through the streets of Upperville, on 21 June, 1863, was captured and never returned to his regiment, having been held a prisoner until the close of the war. The Adjutant of the regiment was T. J. Moore, of Mecklenburg. After the war he studied medicine and prae-